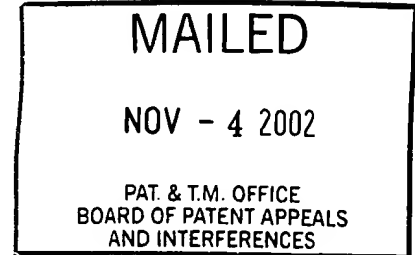


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte ALAIN ZANCO

Application No. 09/172,830



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on September 26, 2002. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

On October 15, 1998 and September 23, 1999, appellant filed Information Disclosure Statements (Paper Nos. 2 and 7). It is not clear from the record whether the examiner considered the Information Disclosure Statements (for Paper No. 2, "French Search Report" and "WO 97 09893") submitted or whether the examiner notified appellant of why the submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Application No. 09/172,830


Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that this application be returned to the examiner for: 1) consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements (Paper Nos. 2 and 7); 2) appropriate notification by the examiner to appellant of such consideration; and 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of this appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By: _____


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CRF/tdl/mh
RA03-0029